UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/664,856	09/19/2000	Kazuhiro Hashimoto	197372US2	5426

22850 7590 01/05/2005	EXAMINER
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.	HUYNH, KIM T

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/664,856	HASHIMOTO, KAZUHIRO
		Examiner	Art Unit
		Kim T. Huynh	2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _27 September 2004_.

2a)☒ This action is FINAL.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are pending in the application.

  4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _19 September 2000_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

  a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

    1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
  Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
  Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dutton

et al. (US Patent 6,061,756)

As per claims 1, 8 and 15, 21-23, Dutton discloses a data transfer control circuit

for carrying out data transfer by using a plurality of bus masters, comprising:

- A data bus (130) connected to a peripheral apparatus (142-146), said data

    bus having a plurality of unit data buses (channels) each of which

    transfers concurrently; (col.5, 24-34)

- A plurality of bus masters configured to send a request signal requesting a

    use of each of said unit data buses and to use said unit data buses

    requested when a request by means of said request signal is granted; and

    (col.9, lines 19-25)

- A bus controller (222) configured to spit-control said unit data buses for

    said plurality of bus masters by giving a grant signal which grants the use

of each of said unit data buses in accordance with said request signal
wherein (col.10, lines 26-58)

- The request signal has an operand (transaction) comprising a plurality of
  bits, each of said plurality of bits corresponding to a respective one of said
  unit data buses (col.10, lines 26-39) and said bus controller grants the use
  of each of said unit data buses specified by the bits of said request signal.
  (col.9, line 40-col.10, line 67, wherein device receives transmission
  ownership information from its respective arbitration logic(controller) in
  response to its respective arbitration logic asserting ownership over the
  available data channels implies controller grants available data channels
  with its respective request)

As per claims 2, 9 and 16, Dutton discloses wherein said bus controller sends the
grant signal to said bus masters a bus release requesting signal requesting
release of said unit data buses. (col.10, lines 44-58)

As per claims 3, 10 and 17, Dutton discloses wherein said bus controller includes
a monitor circuit for monitoring availability of said unit data buses. (col.8, 53-63)

As per claims 4, 11 and 18, Dutton discloses wherein said bus controller judges
whether said unit data buses of said data bus are available based on a
monitoring result of said monitor circuit, and when said unit data buses are
available, said bus controller provides the grant signal of the use of said unit data
buses to said bus master. (col.10, lines 26-58)

As per claims 5, 2 and 19, Dutton discloses wherein said bus controller sends a

state signal indicating the availability of said unit data buses to each of said bus

masters based on a monitoring result of said monitor circuit. (col.10,lines 44-58)

As per claims 6, 13 and 20, Dutton discloses wherein said request signal

includes information specifying each unit data bus in said data bus. (col.5, lines

24-43)

As per claims 7 and 14, Dutton discloses wherein said request signal includes

information specifying the number of the unit data buses in said data bus. (col.8,

lines 53-63)

Response to Amendment

3.   Applicant's amendment filed on 9/27/04 have been fully considered but does not

place the application in condition for allowance.

a. In response to applicant's argument that Dutton does not disclose said bus

controller grants the use of each of said unit data buses specified by the bits of said

request signal. Examiner respectfully disagrees. As Dutton notes at col.9, line 40-col.10,

line 67, discloses each device assert ownership of available data channels for

performing operations on bus and each of devices asserts with transmission information

ie. address information destination identification (data bus interface logics includes data

packing logic and byte slicing logic). The arbitration logic sending asserts ownership

(grants) in response to the unified logic (request). The sending device receives

transmission ownership information from its respective arbitration logic in response to its

respective arbitration logic asserting ownership over the available data channels. Thus,

the prior art teaches the invention as claimed and the amended claims do not

distinguish over the prior art as applied.

Conclusion

4.   THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.   *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should*

be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (571)272-3635 or via e-mail addressed to

[kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9.00AM- 6:00PM.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are

(703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be

directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

Kim Huynh

Dec. 26, 2004